

September 10, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Ex Parte Notice*
Federal State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, September 9, 2003, Dale Lehman gave a presentation on behalf of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA) and the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO) to staff members of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service regarding the Joint Board's proceeding concerning changes to the existing universal service portability rules and eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation guidelines. Present at the presentation were Bill Scher, Vickie Byrd, Cara Voth and Elizabeth Yockus with the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division. Also present were Joel Shifman with the Maine Public Utilities Commission, Mary Newmeyer with the Alabama Public Service Commission, Larry Stevens with the Iowa Utilities Board, Earl Poucher with the Florida Public Service Commission, Marie Guillory and Dan Mitchell with NTCA, and Stuart Polikoff with OPASTCO.

The attached document was handout during the presentation and summarizes the content of the presentation.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, an original and two copies of this letter are being filed with the Secretary's Office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dan Mitchell at 703/351-2016.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel Mitchell
Daniel Mitchell
Senior Regulatory Counsel
Legal and Industry Division

cc: Joint Board Staff Members
 Stuart Polikoff